NOTE XVI.

ON AN UNDESCRIBED SPECIES OF BLACK-LEGGED MEGAPODE, MEGAPODIUS SANGHIRENSIS.

BY

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Siao and Sanghi (the two principal islands of the Archipelago of Sanghi, which forms a kind of link between Celebes and Mindanao) produce a species of Megapode, which is allied to Megapodius cuminghi from the Philippines, Megap. gilberti from the Northern parts of Celebes, Megap. lowii from North-West Borneo, and Megap. forsteni from Ceram, Amboina and Bourou; but which differs from all these species in a way sufficiently notable to justify its claim to the rank of a separate species.

The Philippine bird is at once distinguished from the other above mentioned species by its superior size. The bird of Sanghi, inferior in size to that of the Philippines, is, on the contrary, larger than Megap. lowii and gilberti, and even somewhat larger than Megap. forsteni.

The system of coloration presents the following modifications from that of Megap. lowii, gilberti and forsteni. The slate-gray of the throat and the underside of the body is tinged with dark brown, whereas the upper surface of the head and of the body behind the mantle is tinged with a rusty, and not with an olivaceous color.

Wing 8 inches to 8 inches 5 lines (french foot). Tarse $2^1/_3$ to $2^1/_2$ inches.

The Museum posesses since 1866 six specimens of this species of Megapode. They were partly collected by our traveller, Mr. Hoedt, partly presented by Mr. van Duyvenbode.

A monographic review of the tribe of Megapodes being prepared by me for the work entitled „Muséum des Pays-Bas," I refer to this publication for more ample details on the different species in question.